DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 369 629 RC 019 599

AUTHOR Young, William F.
TITLE Intensive Family-Based Services Program: A Supportive Alternative to Out-of-Home Placement for Troubled Children and Their Families.
PUB DATE Mar 94
NOTE 9p.; In: Montgomery, Diane, Ed. Rural Partnerships: Working Together. Proceedings of the Annual National Conference of the American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES) (14th, Austin, Texas, March 23-26, 1994); see RC 019 557. Map will not reproduce clearly.
PUB TYPE Speeches/Conference Papers (150) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Agency Cooperation; Child Advocacy; Child Welfare; Coordination; Cost Effectiveness; *Family Counseling; Family Problems; *Family Programs; Foster Care; Intervention; *Problem Children; Rural Areas
IDENTIFIERS *Dysfunctional Family; *Georgia (Southeast)

ABSTRACT

Since 1985 the Southeast Regional Troubled Children's Committee (SERTCC) has formed local committees and promoted interagency collaboration to serve troubled children and their families in 24 counties in southeast Georgia. SERTCC provides intensive family-based services within the homes of dysfunctional families for 12 weeks, with the goal of keeping families together and preventing out-of-home placement of children. In the past 7 years, 203 children and 848 family members have been served through the program. The program has been successful in keeping 80 percent of children in the home and family units intact. Additionally, the cost of intensive family-based services is significantly lower when compared to intermediate care placement and intensive care placement. The goals of SERTCC include ensuring appropriate case resolution and staffing at the local and regional levels, developing effective policies and procedures, developing or facilitating a continuum of community resources to meet the needs of troubled children and their families, supporting services to children through age 22, and increasing the responsiveness of various agencies to the needs of children and their families through staff development and staff training. Includes recommendations for implementing an intensive family-based service program, a map of the area served by SERTCC, and client statistics from 1987-1993. (LP)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED 369 629

Dr. William F. Young
SERTCC
Georgia

Intensive Family-Based Services *Program*

A service of the Southeast Regional
Troubled Children's Committee, Inc.
(SERTCC)

A Supportive Alternative To Out-of-Home Placement For Troubled Children and Their Families

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☑ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

RC 019599

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
Diane Montgomery
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

HISTORY/ORGANIZATION/GRANT

The Southeast Regional Troubled Children's Committee, Inc. (SERTCC) has been in existence since 1985. The involvement of SERTCC initially was with an understanding that cooperative agreements between the six divisions of the Department of Human Resources and Education at the state level would come about. This working together would assist in providing community resources to serve troubled children at the local and regional level. At it's beginning there was some indication that State Troubled Children money might be decentralized and given to regional and/or local committees to make decisions on services for troubled children. Since this concept did not materialize, SERTCC has continued to move forward in helping local troubled children committees form and become functional agencies within each of the twenty-four counties that is served by SERTCC.

SERTCC received a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) grant for $550,000.00 from the Federal Government with the cooperation of the State Department of Human Resources (Division of Mental Health) to provide services to troubled children and their family in the twenty-four county area. This was a five year grant which ended in June of 1992. The State of Georgia, seeing the potential and positive impact of this program, funded SERTCC at $135,000.00 a year as an item under the State Department of Human Resources (Division of Mental Health). By providing intensive family-based services within the homes of dysfunctional families, we have been able to keep families together and prevent out-of-home placement. As of this date, we have served families in twenty-two of the twenty-four counties located in southeast Georgia. Our statistics show, through seven years, that two hundred and three (203) children have been served along with approximately eight hundred and forty-eight (848) family members which include other siblings and parents of the troubled child. As you are aware, when you are dealing with a troubled child in a dysfunctional family, you are really dealing with the entire family unit.

COST EFFECTIVENESS

As of this writing, we have been successful in keeping children in the home and have the family unit functioning after the twelve weeks of service at a success rate of eighty percent (80%).

COST OF INTENSIVE FAMILY-BASED SERVICES -- $3,000.00
(SERVICE PROVIDER GOES INTO HOME OVER A 12 WEEK PERIOD OF TIME)

VERSUS

INTERMEDIATE CARE PLACEMENT - $7,540.00

VERSUS

INTENSIVE CARE PLACEMENT - $16,395.00
(12 WEEKS)

FOLLOW-UP SERVICES PROVIDED:

At the end of the fourth year follow-up was conducted by the program evaluator. Follow-up data included input from the agencies involved as well as the parents of the troubled child. Data covered the time period up to a year after services were terminated.

STATUS AND FUTURE PLANS:

The families of southeast Georgia are gratified that Governor Zell Miller thought highly enough of our program to include it in the FY-93 budget and again in the FY-94 budget. We believe that the type of services and the way they have been administered is a cost effective alternative to other, more expensive and intrusive, options for troubled children.

SERTCC, Inc. has been granted 501-c3 status which allows us to submit proposals for foundation grants. SERTCC is also available to receive any contracted services from other agencies that deal with dysfunctional families and troubled children. This purchase of services is cost efficient and effective as compared to intensive and intermediate care and you will be keeping the family together. Our success rate is outstanding.

The general membership meets quarterly with the officers and board members meeting monthly to provide direction and leadership not only to the general members but also to the service providers who are doing the important work with these dysfunctional families and their troubled children. As you can see, our commitment to troubled children in the area is just as strong as ever and we feel like we are making a real difference with the families that we are involved with in providing in-home services.

In summary, the purpose of SERTCC is to develop, facilitate, improve and coordinate the delivery of services to troubled children and their families in primarily a twenty-four county area of southeast Georgia. Our goals are:

1) to ensure appropriate case resolution and case staffing at the local and regional levels;
2) to develop effective policies and procedures to achieve the purpose(s) of the organization;
3) to develop and/or facilitate continuum of community resources to meet the needs of troubled children and their families;
4) to advocate for services to children intervention/prevention) through age twenty-two and their families;
5) to help increase the responsiveness of various agencies to the needs of children and their families through staff development and staff training.

CAN SERTCC COME TO MY AREA?

With a sincere commitment on the part of CEO's of human service agencies, the business community and compassion for the children of our communities, the concept of SERTCC can work in any community. It takes dedicated people from all human agencies, business and education working together as a unit to be effective and really make a difference. We in southeast Georgia are very fortunate to have this kind of working relationship.

We (SERTCC) believe that the concept of interagency collaboration and networking between human service agencies and the private sector provides a purpose, allows the players to be focused on helping at-risk students and dysfunctional families along with providing:

a) Professional Staff Development
b) Interagency network on daily and weekly basis
c) Becoming a liaison resource for other agencies
d) Quarterly staff Development
e) Intensive family-based services for multiple service areas can be replicated effectively by adapting the concept to match the needs of your area.

INTENSIVE FAMILY BASED SERVICES OPERATIONAL MODEL

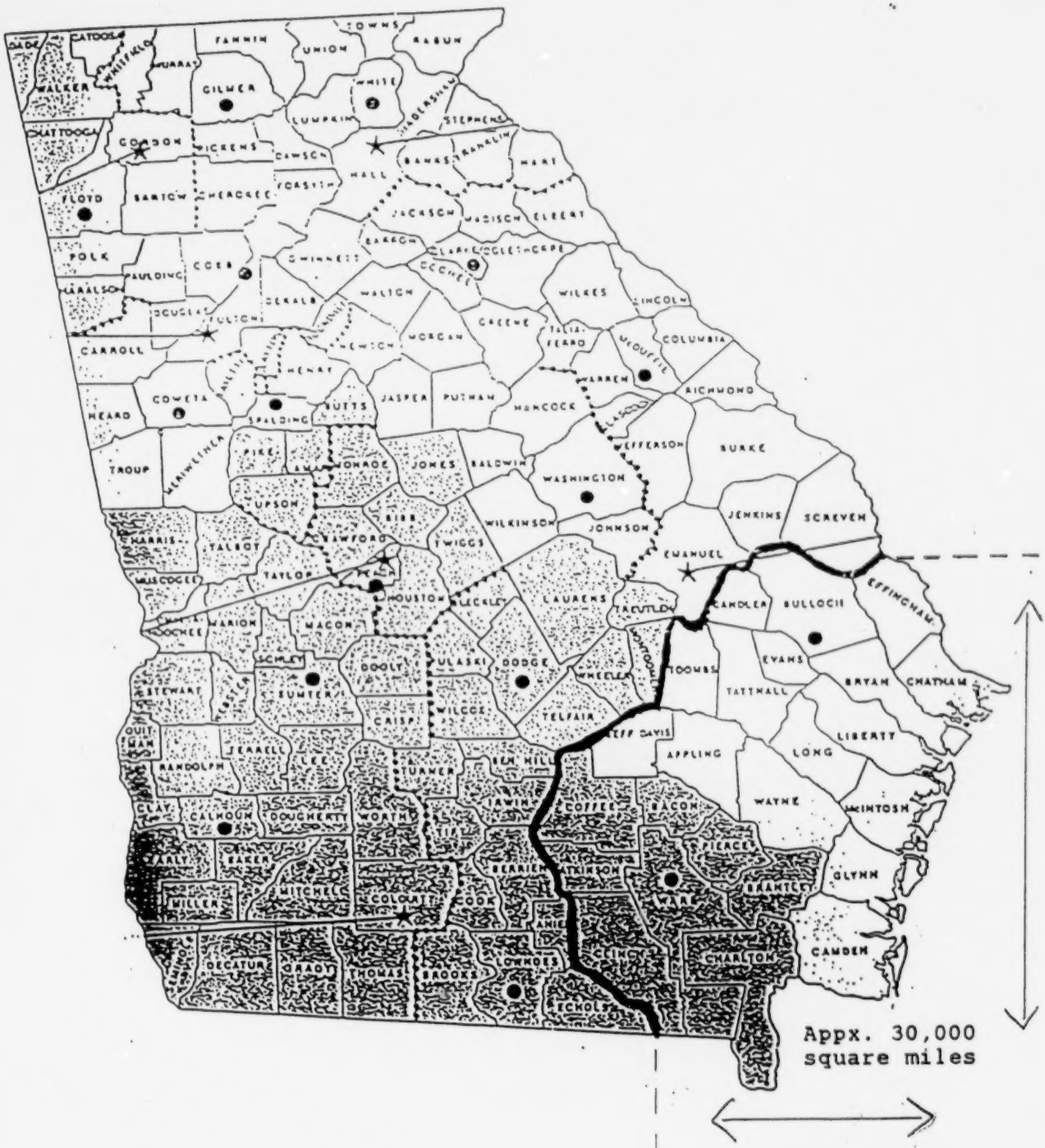
1) FAMILY COUNSELING: To include any of the following:

a) Crisis intervention
b) Counseling to strengthen marital unit and to help husband and wife in parental roles.
c) Counseling to single parent or other guardian in order to strengthen and structure positive parenting techniques and teach behavior management techniques where needed.
d) Counseling to help organize and structure family unit through more specifically clarifying roles, setting limits, and more clearly defining the behavioral expectations of one another.
e) Teach communication skills and problem solving.
f) Teach parenting skills such as child growth and development, child caring techniques, infant stimulation, toilet training and accident prevention.
g) Teach stress management techniques such as coping skills, anger control and relaxation.
h) Teach organizational skills such as money management, time management and scheduling.
i) Counsel to help stabilize living arrangements.
j) Counsel individual member or family as a whole about needs for long term therapy.

2) COORDINATE COMMUNITY RESOURCES

a) Act as a referring agent and liaison between family and community resources.

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL TROUBLED CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE, INC.



CLIENT STATISTICS
1987-1988

CHILD REFERRED

BLACK MALE	BLACK FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	TOTAL
6	2	12	5	25

PARENT/GUARDIAN

MOTHER	FATHER	BOTH	OTHER
11	2	6	3

AVERAGE AGE OF CHILD: 12.8

AVERAGE INTERVENTION PERIOD: 7 WEEKS

REFERRING AGENCIES

MH	DFCS	PSYCHOED	SCHOOLS	DYS
7	5	3	3	5

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED: 91

COUNTIES SERVED

CAMDEN	1
CANDLER	1
CHATHAM	6
GLYNN	4
LIBERTY	1
PIERCE	1
TATTNALL	7
WARE	1
WAYNE	2

OUTCOMES AT CONCLUSION OF SERVICES

CHILDREN REMAINING AT HOME	17
CHILDREN LIVING WITH RELATIVES	1
CHILDREN REMAINING WITH FOSTER FAMILY	1
CHILDREN PLACED OUT OF HOME	6
NIMH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CURRENT YEAR	$115,578.14
AVERAGE COST PER FAMILY	$4,623.12

CLIENT STATISTICS
1988-1989

CHILD REFERRED

BLACK MALE	BLACK FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	NATIVE AMERICAN MALE	TOTAL
6	1	4	3	1	15

PARENT/GUARDIAN

MOTHER	FATHER	BOTH	OTHER
8	2	2	3

AVERAGE AGE OF CHILD: 10

AVERAGE INTERVENTION PERIOD: 8 WEEKS

REFERRING AGENCIES

MH	DFCS	PSYCHOED	SCHOOLS	DYS
6	3	2	2	2

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED: 51

COUNTIES SERVED

BULLOCH	1
CHATHAM	3
GLYNN	2
TATTNALL	7
TOOMBS	2

OUTCOMES AT CONCLUSION OF SERVICES

CHILDREN REMAINING AT HOME	13
CHILDREN LIVING WITH RELATIVES	1
CHILDREN REMAINING WITH FOSTER FAMILY	1
CHILDREN CURRENTLY BEING SERVED	5
NIMH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CURRENT YEAR	$ 84,421.86
AVERAGE COST PER FAMILY	$5,628.12

CLIENT STATISTICS
1989-1990

CHILD REFERRED

BLACK MALE	BLACK FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	TOTAL
15	4	19	10	48

PARENT/GUARDIAN

MOTHER	FATHER	BOTH	OTHER
30	4	11	3

AVERAGE AGE OF CHILD	AVERAGE INTERVENTION PERIOD
12.2	12 WEEKS

REFERRING AGENCIES

MH	DFCS	PSYCHOED	SCHOOLS	DYS
13	8	11	9	4

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED
200

COUNTIES SERVED

GLYNN	21
BULLOCH	2
BRYAN	1
CAMDEN	1
CHARLTON	2
CHATHAM	4
EVANS	1
JEFF DAVIS	1
LIBERTY	2
MCINTOSH	2
PIERCE	1
TATTNALL	6
TOOMBS	4

OUTCOMES AT CONCLUSION OF SERVICES

CHILDREN REMAINING AT HOME	40
CHILDREN SERVED WITH STATE FUNDS *	12
CHILDREN PLACED OUT OF THE HOME	3
CHILDREN CURRENTLY BEING SERVED	5
STATE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CURRENT YEAR	$25,000.00
NIMH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CURRENT YEAR	$140,450.00
AVERAGE COST PER FAMILY	$3,601.82

CLIENT STATISTICS
1990-1991

CHILD REFERRED

BLACK MALE	BLACK FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	HISPANIC MALE	TOTAL
8	1	9	4	1	23

PARENT/GUARDIAN

MOTHER	FATHER	BOTH	OTHER
11	1	9	1

AVERAGE AGE OF CHILD	AVERAGE INTERVENTION PERIOD
11.9	8 WEEKS

REFERRING AGENCIES

MH	DFCS	PSYCHOED	SCHOOLS	DYS
7	4	6	4	2

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED
89

COUNTIES SERVED

GLYNN	13
BRYAN	1
CAMDEN	1
CHARLTON	2
CHATHAM	1
EVANS	1
LIBERTY	1
MCINTOSH	2
TOOMBS	1

OUTCOMES AT CONCLUSION OF SERVICES

CHILDREN REMAINING AT HOME	18
CHILDREN PLACED OUT OF THE HOME	2
CHILDREN PLACED WITH OTHER FAMILY	1
CHILDREN CURRENTLY BEING SERVED	2
NIMH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CURRENT YEAR	$100,000.00
AVERAGE COST PER FAMILY	$4,347.83

CLIENT STATISTICS
1991-1992

CHILD REFERRED

BLACK MALE	BLACK FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	TOTAL
4	3	9	2	18

PARENT/GUARDIAN

MOTHER	FATHER	BOTH	OTHER
9	0	1	8

AVERAGE AGE OF CHILD	AVERAGE INTERVENTION PERIOD
11.67	12 WEEKS

REFERRING AGENCIES

MH	DFCS	PSYCHOED	SCHOOLS	DYS	OTHER
5	4	1	5	2	1

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED
67

COUNTIES SERVED

BULLOCH	1
CHATHAM	5
COFFEE	1
EFFINGHAM	1
GLYNN	3
LIBERTY	2
MCINTOSH	1
TATTNALL	2
WARE	2

OUTCOMES AT CONCLUSION OF SERVICES

CHILDREN REMAINING AT HOME	15
CHILDREN PLACED OUT OF HOME	3
NIMH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CURRENT YEAR	$92,000.00
AVERAGE COST PER TOTAL FAMILY MEMBER	$1,373.13

CLIENT STATISTICS
1992-1993

CHILD REFERRED

BLACK MALE	BLACK FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	TOTAL
7	6	19	3	35

AVERAGE AGE OF CHILD

12.4

COUNTIES SERVED

GLYNN	14	JEFF/DAVIS	1
TATTNALL	5	BULLOCH	1
WARE	1	BRANTLEY	1
TOOMBS	1	EFFINGHAM	2
BRYAN	4	CAMDEN	1
CHARLTON	3	MCINTOSH	1

FUNDS SPENT
$83,288.00

COST PER CHILD
$2,379.66

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dr. William F. Young
Chairman - SERTCC
Assistant Superintendent
Pupil Personnel Services
Glynn County School System
2400 Reynolds Street
Brunswick, Georgia
(912) 267-4220